

USA TODAY 8 July 1985

NATIONLINE

FROM USA TODAY'S NATIONAL NEWS NETWORK

CIA secrets key in general's trial



COLLINS: Accused of embezzlement

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A retired Air Force general whose embezzlement trial starts today has U.S. intelligence officials worried about his vow to launch a defense that includes releasing information regarding CIA activities. Maj. Gen. Richard B. Collins, 55, says he'll release information about secret U.S. cash used to bankroll covert CIA operations in Southeast Asia and elsewhere. Collins, a former key aide to Alexander Haig, is accused of channeling about \$445,000 into his Swiss bank

account and keeping \$19,000 in interest. Collins was once assigned to manage spy money in Europe. He says he handled the money in a legitimate fashion.